

**AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION**

Please REPLACE the paragraph beginning at page 3, line 1, with the following paragraph:

**"Variant product - also referred at times as the "variant protein" or "variant polypeptide"** - is an amino acid sequence encoded by the variant nucleic acid sequence which is a naturally occurring mRNA sequence obtained as a result of alternative splicing. The amino acid sequence may be a peptide, a protein, as well as peptides or proteins having *chemically modified* amino acids (see below) such as a glycopeptide or glycoprotein. The term also includes *homologues* (see below) of said sequences in which one or more amino acids has been added, deleted, *substituted* (see below) or *chemically modified* (see below) as well as *fragments* (see below) of this sequence having at least 10 amino acids. More specifically, it concerns the amino acid sequences present in the above CD-ROM. Each amino acid ~~sequences~~sequence has the same NV\_... number as the nucleic acid sequence from which it was coded. The directory name of the file is the functional family name. The nucleic sequences file name is (family-name)\_for\_patent; and the protein sequences file is (family-name)\_pep\_patent. They are also denoted NV\_1 to NV-48611, each protein having the same NV\_... number as the nucleic acid sequence from which it was coded. The SEQ ID NOs of

Serial No. 09/724,676

Docket No. 1847.1016

the amino acid sequences run consecutively, starting from SEQ ID  
NO:48612 (equivalent to protein variant number NV 1) to SEQ ID  
NO:97222 (equivalent to protein variant number NV 48611).